

The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Tourism Industry of Asian Countries: A Review

Tasnim Uddin Chowdhury

Department of Business Administration, Premier University, Chattogram, Bangladesh

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought international travel and movement to an abrupt halt and resulted in a significant disruption on the tourism industry of the world. Many researchers have shared their work showing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry. This article is an attempt to provide a comprehensive review of the works that has been done in the context of Asian countries. It reveals that all the selected countries have already experienced a dramatic contraction in terms of their national income and hike in the rate of unemployment due to the disastrous impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry. As such, policy makers should play a vital role to find out appropriate resilience strategies to overcome the adversity and make the tourism industry more attractive, comfortable and safer for the travelers in a post pandemic world.

Keywords: COVID-19, Tourism Industry, Asian Countries, Resilience Strategies

Introduction

Tourism industry, nowadays, has received attention across the world due to its significant contribution in stimulating consumption, promoting trade and international communication (Qian et al., 2018). This sector is considered as one of the rapidly growing industries (Shahzad et al., 2017), that can assist in economic recovery and growth if the underlying potentials of the industry are managed properly. It can also be recognized as one of the major contributors to economic growth and development for an emerging market (Haller, 2012; Shahzad et al., 2017). The importance of tourism industry is manifested in the fact that it contributes positively in increasing revenues (Alam and Paramati, 2016), creation of jobs (Habibi, 2017), elimination of poverty (Blake et al., 2008), development of infrastructure (Lee and Chang, 2008) and promotion of economic growth (Mariolis et al., 2020).

Tourism industry is gigantic and global tourism business accounts for 10.4 percent of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 10 percent of employment (Menegaki, 2020). The sector consists of transport, airlines, cruise lines, hotels, restaurants, travel agencies, tour operators and guides, online travel entities and sites of attractions like national parks, rivers, lakes, protected areas, cultural heritage etc. and small and medium enterprises (SMEs), and micro-firms that support the sector. This sector is also linked to the agricultural and fisheries sector of a country. As such, one can easily predict the economic impact of any disruptions held in the smooth operation of this sector.

The COVID-19 pandemic has got a rapid outbreak and affected almost all countries and territories of the world. It was first identified in a seafood market of Wuhan City, China at

the end of 2019 (Zhu et al., 2020). The countries around the world alerted the public to be careful and to take responsive care. Strategies like- lockdown, social distancing and staying home have been put in place as the required action to flatten the curve and reduce the transmission of the disease. Most countries of the world have put travel restrictions and closed their border for the visitors and travelers. This, in turn, resulted in a total suspension of international tourism. Besides, domestic tourism also got affected due to the lockdown conditions imposed in many countries. As such, tourism is one of the sectors remarkably affected by COVID-19 (Fotiadis et al., 2021). It has been reported by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) that a loss of USD 1.2 trillion in export revenue has been incurred due to a 78 percent drop in international tourists in 2020 which is about seven times the 9/11 incident resulted in (UNWTO, 2020). Additionally, the drop in the tourists' demand has also led to a severe financial problem (Tsionas, 2020). Notably, both the international and domestic tourism has become "lifeless" due to plummeted rates of hotel occupancy, cancelled business trips and vacations and industry-wide lay off of workers (Maliszewska et al., 2020). Gössling et al., (2020) reported that the pandemic caused by COVID-19 hit the tourism industry severely compared to other key industries like seafood, shipping, oil and gas. Moreover, Jones and Comfort (2020) added that, the COVID-19 pandemic has not only affected the tourism industry but also changed the natural environment that may result in a change in the global development patterns.

Starting from the year 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic started, many researchers have shared their work showing the impact of the pandemic on the tourism industry. Beside may international organizations have also published article on the issue. This paper is an attempt to provide a comprehensive review of the works that has been done in the context of Asian countries. It provides an essence regarding the studies that show how different economic indicators like GDP, employment, foreign exchange etc. has been affected due to the disastrous impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism sector. As such, this paper would be helpful for the tourism experts to get a bird's eye view over the disastrous impact of the pandemic on the tourism industries of Asian countries. It would also be helpful for the policy makers to have an idea regarding the resilience strategies provided by the earlier works to overcome the adversity of the pandemic on the industry.

Objective and Methodology of the study

The main objective of this study is to provide a comprehensive review of literature on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry in the context of Asia. It also focuses on the resilience strategies provided by the industry experts to overcome the adversity and bounce back the situation to make the industry more attractive, comfortable and safer for the travelers in a post pandemic world. In order to conduct this study a descriptive method has been followed and a significant number of research papers, reports published by the government and private organizations, newspaper articles and websites of international organizations working on travel and tourism has been reviewed that portrays the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry, especially, in the context of Asian countries.

Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Tourism industry of selected Asian countries

Bangladesh:

According to Kobra et al., (2018) the investment made in tourism industry is not adequate enough for creating a strong platform to utilize the industry for adding a significant contribution to the economy of Bangladesh. Though, Salam (2014) shows way for making the tourism industry as one of the key contributors to the economic progress of Bangladesh. Study by Sayeda (2017) identifies Cox's Bazar and three Hill Tracts of Chattogram as the potential source of generating revenue for the country through mass tourism. Rhaman (2016) portrays how people in Rangamati get benefitted through their engagement in tourism related activities. Sazzad (2020) finds a rapid growth in the tourism industry of Bangladesh with its 4.4 percent contribution to the total national gross domestic productions. As the sector was growing in the country smoothly, all of a sudden, the COVID-19 pandemic changed the track putting many people in serious trouble.

There is a few literature available showing the impact of the pandemic on the tourism industry of Bangladesh. Hafsa (2020) shows the impact of COVID-19 on the rate of occupancy on luxury hotels at Cox's Bazar. Her study also shows the adverse impact of the pandemic on aviation sector and the joblessness of people serving in the tourism industry of Bangladesh. She also reports losses incurred by the different stakeholders operating in the tourism and hospitality sector of the country. Based on the data provided by Tour Operators Association of Bangladesh (TOAB) Adhikary and Hasan (2020) reported that the tourism sector of the country has incurred a loss of Taka 20,000 crore alone in the year 2020. Applying an event study, Chowdhury (2020) finds significantly negative cumulative abnormal returns of five companies listed with the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) under Travel and Leisure category. He suggests the policy makers of the industry to resuscitate the highly potential industry and to get prepared for any unforeseen imminent crisis.

China:

In 2018, the tourism industry contributed for more than 11 percent to the GDP of China (Liu and Han, 2020). Based on the government statistics Su et al. (2021) reports that, the number of international tourists visited China was 56 million, while for the domestic tourists it was 1.61 billion and it is growing over time. The country earned 45 billion US dollars of foreign exchange from the sector and got fourth position globally. Domestic tourism income in China has been reported at 777.1 billion Yuan. From tourism to infrastructural development, the sector has given rise to several benefits for multiple industries operating in China (Zhang & Gao, 2021).

Chen et al. (2020) found the COVID-19 outbreak caused a 32 percent decline in China's online consumption. Their study also identifies the catering, entertainment and tourism as the mostly affected sectors in China. The view of Davies (2020) gives support to the opinion of Jennings (2020) and reports that, air travel in and out of China has been severely restricted due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus; as a result, the tourism sector of China has been affected adversely. In another study, Koe (2020) mentioned that not only the Chinese hotels and restaurants but also the transport industry has experienced losses due to the rapid COVID-19 pandemic in China. Hoque et al. (2020) reported that the most of the foreign tourists cancelled their trip to China due to the rapid outbreak of the Coronavirus; this in turn, had a negative impact on the subsectors related to the tourism of the country. Using panel data, He et al. (2020) analyzed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the returns of Chinese-listed companies. Their study indicated a significantly adverse effect on the performance of stocks operating under different industries. Wu et al. (2021) have shown how the COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact on the returns of stock of Chinese-listed firms operating under the tourism industry. To overcome the adverse impact of the

pandemic, Su et al. (2021) suggested the policymakers to pay special attention to the industry. They also suggested formulating and developing tourism friendly policies to encourage the tourists to visit the country and maintaining and improving the industry's standing by lowering the overall cost and improving the hospitality related services for both domestic and international tourists.

India:

As one of the major destinations for many international tourists, India is creating several employment opportunities and generating a significant amount of tax revenue (Ahmed & Krohn, 1992). The tourism industry has created about 87.5 million jobs which is 12.75 percent of total employment of the country and thereby contributing an amount of INR 194 billion to India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (WTTC, 2018). The record of 2019 shows that, this sector obtained a 4.8 percent growth, which is equivalent to USD 29.96 billion, compared to the previous year. In the first part of the year 2020, it reached US\$5.40 billion which made India to have 34th position in terms of tourism competitiveness in the world (IBEF, 2020). Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) (2020) report predicts that the tourism sector would generate 52.3 million job opportunities by 2028 in India (DPIIT, 2020). But an unfortunate entrance of the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the tourism map of India and the collapsed the entire system (Jamal et al., 2020).

Due to the pandemic, fall in foreign tourists' arrival rate was 68 percent from the month February to March 2020 which led a fall in foreign exchange earnings by 66.32 percent (Statista, 2020). Using the ANN model with respect to COVID-19 outbreak Jaipuria et al. (2020) predicted the number of foreign tourists and exchange rates. Their findings suggested that if the tourism sector and policies are not properly restructured, then the foreign exchange earnings will fall below USD 1790.53 million and the country may entirely lose the amount. If policies are reformed to manage the sector, then the value of foreign exchange earnings will be at least USD 13351.07 million. Jamal, et al. (2020) concludes their study saying that "In India, due to the rapid spread of the novel virus, both domestic and foreign tourists cancelled their planned trips. Consequently, most of flights were cancelled, hotels and restaurants were closed, and residencies were empty. A sizable number of people, who are directly and indirectly dependent on the tourism sector, have lost their jobs and again came into the vicious circle of poverty". They provide a list of both short term and long-term measures taken by the government of India for elevating and combating the effect of COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry.

Indonesia

Until 2019, the tourism industry in Indonesia becomes one of the major sources of earning foreign exchange for the country. Even, it was forecasted that the sector will be ranked as the highest contributor to foreign exchange and creation of jobs in 2020 (Kristiana et al., 2021). However, the reality was different due to the rapid outbreak of COVID-19 in Indonesia. Based on data taken from the Central Statistics Agency (2020) they stated that, the number of tourist visits to Indonesia from other countries of the world in July 2020 was 159,763, which is 89.12 percent lower compared to the foreign tourist visits in July 2019 (1,468,173 visitors). Due to such fall in tourist arrival rate, in July 2020, the occupancy rate of Indonesian star classified hotel rooms reached an average of 28.07 percent (a reduction by 28.66 points) compared to July 2019 (56.73 percent).

In their study Purba et al. (2021) shows that, in 2015, the tourism sector of Indonesia reached to IDR. 224.46 trillion, and with a 60 percent increase it reached to IDR. 356.94 trillion in the year 2019. In an average, the growth rate was 15% per year. However, due to the COVID-19 outbreak it shows a drastic decline of 49.6 percent and reached to IDR 179.76 trillion in the year 2020, which was even, lower than 2015. By applying trend simulation techniques, they forecasted that, it could be IDR 400.68 trillion, or an increase of 12.25 percent compared to the year 2019, if no COVID-19 pandemic were there. Purba et al. (2021) also estimates that, tourism sector's contribution to Indonesia's GDP reached to 2.25 percent in 2019 while it was 1.95 percent in 2015. Due to the pandemic, it has been decreased to 1.16 percent in 2020. The forecasted contribution of the tourism industry to Indonesia's GDP in the year 2020 without the existence of the pandemic was 2.49 percent. Based on the structural functional theory, Kristiana et al., (2021) proposed for implementation of sustainable tourism in the country that depends on creation of community resilience and tourism resilience. Their study also proposed that, in order to build resilience to face the pandemic the government and the stakeholders of the industry should play an active and innovative role.

Laos

Before the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, there was an increase in the international tourist arrivals by 14.4 percent in Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), which resulted in an all-time peak of 4.79 million. Total receipts from international tourism become \$934 million (Government of the Lao PDR, MICT 2019). With growing linkages between the tourism sector and the rest of sectors of the economy, Khanal et al. (2014) implied an indirect contribution of tourism in the growth of the economy. In 2017, the sector accounted for 13.7 percent of total GDP and in 2019; the country received over 4.79 million visitors which was 14.4 percent higher than the previous year. Due to such increase, the country generated revenue of USD 900 million on that year from the tourism sector alone (Southichack et al., 2020b). Another report by Southichack et al. (2020a) states that, Lao PDR's GDP growth rate for the year 2020 has been forecasted to 6.5 – 6.7 percent. Growing tourism sector was considered as one of the key assumptions in their growth forecast.

But, due to the COVID-19 outbreak, there was a decline in the number of international tourists entered in the country by 16.6 percent during the period January-March 2020. Number of passengers used to travel monthly has been dropped by 66.5 percent in January-June 2020, translating to a loss in revenue by 66.3 percent compared to the same period of the earlier year. Though, airlines did not lay off any workers, but paid their employees 30 percent of their regular salaries, and encouraged staff to take voluntary leave without pay. Hotels and restaurants offered up to 70 percent discount on their regular price to attract domestic visitors and to reduce their operating cost they had to send 30-60 percent of their staff on leave without pay. During the lockdown period, income of the hotels and restaurants dropped to almost zero and they had to lay off more than 80 percent of their staff (Southichack et al., 2020b). As such, the "sudden stop" in receipts from tourist arrivals caused by the COVID-19 is expected to have a devastating impact on tourism enterprises in the Lao PDR. To get rid of it, the sector needs assistance to survive the current crisis and prepare short to medium term recovery plans once the pandemic subsides (Yamano et al., 2020).

Malaysia

In Malaysia, tourism has been identified as one of the primary industries and service sectors that have seen tremendous growth (Ahmad, et al., 2019). Besides generating substantial foreign exchange income, this sector of the country is playing an important role through creation of job opportunities (Mosbah, et al., 2014). In 2019, tourist receipts have reached MYR 86.1 billion from MYR 83.1 billion in 2018 (Tourism Malaysia, 2020). Malaysia has initiated offering various tourism products to the tourists, a range of such niche market products include cultural and heritage tourism, medical tourism (Sarwar, 2013), educational tourism (Ojo, et al., 2013), Halal tourism (Haque et al., 2019) etc. and among these products, demand of Halal tourism is growing tremendously (Karim et al., 2020).

According to Karim et al., (2020) and Ying (2020), the tourism and hospitality industry of Malaysia has been affected significantly due to the global outbreak of COVID-19. It resulted in a considerable downturn in air travel and forced people who are employed in hotels, restaurants and other sectors related to the tourism industry to opt for an unpaid leave (Aldaihani and Ali, 2018). The Malaysian Association of Hotels (MAH) reported that as of March 2020 a total of 170,085 hotel room bookings having an estimated value of MYR 68 million has been cancelled (Kaur, 2020). MAH also expected that, 30% of 4,888 hotels of Malaysia registered under the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MOTAC) will be closed down (Ahmad, 2020). Tan (2020) argues that, the pandemic has considerably affected the aviation sector of the country and the Malaysian airlines have experienced a substantial revenue loss due to a decreasing trend in passenger demand to and from China's tourist areas. As per the study of Hanafiah et al. (2021) the disruption in the tourism business in Malaysia is likely to continue for many months in the future and would cause unrest to the sustainability of the country's economic condition. Their study also provides a comprehensive picture of the Malaysian tourism business trends, its impacts and the needs arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, they gauge the industry's resilience and readiness in the midst of the financial support provided by the fiscal policy of the government and the Central Bank. Based on the primary data they reported a reduction in the tourism sales and revenue of their respondents despite of the positive support received from the government. Their study recommends the Malaysian government to provide more tailor-made financial support to the players in the tourism industry for its future efficient performance.

Nepal

In Nepal, tourism has uplifted the socioeconomic condition of the locals and provided them enough opportunity to lead a better life through the elimination of poverty. It has significant contribution in the overall development of the nation. It is also one of the major sources of earning foreign currency for the country (Shivakoti, 2021). The industry generated NRs. 240.7 billion in the year 2018 which is 7.9 percent of GDP (Prasain, 2019). About 200,000 people are being employed in restaurants, hotel, mountaineering, trekking, airlines and other tourism related sectors in Nepal (ADB, 2019). As per the Nepal Tourism Statistics (2019), there are 1254 registered hotels of star and tourist standard categories; 29 international and 20 domestic airlines; and 2649 registered trekking agencies and other businesses that operate to serve the tourism industry of Nepal. According to Ulak (2020), with the development of many mega projects the country's tourism industry were gradually shifting from passive-impetus to active-impetus. But, due to the unfortunate outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, Nepal has also been adversely affected and its preliminary impact has been recorded a loss of 14.37 percent to Nepalese economy due to the restrictions held in travels and cancellations of flights (Shrestha, 2020). Even, the ambitious campaign "Visit Nepal Year 2020" aimed by the government to bring 2 million tourists had to cancel in Nepal (Ulak,

2020). In her study, Shivakoti (2021) showed the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism sector of the country in terms of the economy, society, education safety and health etc. She proposed the government to come forward with special packages for the tourism industry, to form public private partnership to manage the crises period and to develop recovery strategies with specific timelines. She also recommended the policy makers to prioritize the target markets with proper stratification and to use social media to convey a positive message regarding the industry to attract tourists in the country.

Pakistan

Starting from 1972 with the creation of a separate ministry to promote tourism in Pakistan, the industry has seen many ups and downs due to severe hits by earthquake (Haseeb et al., 2011), flood (Asgary et al., 2012), terrorism (Raza & Jawaid, 2013), political unrest, internal crises (Chen et al., 2009, Papatheodorou et al., 2010 and Cohen, 2012) etc. Despite of all those obstacles, the tourism industry of Pakistan has gradually proved to be a big source of income and employment and during 1994-2019 tourism contributed 5.7 to 7.1 percent to the GDP of the country (Mohammad et al., 2020). In the year 2013, the industry contributed 3.1 percent to GDP with 6.2 percent of the total employment of the country (Abdur & Muhammad, 2015). Based on a report published by Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation, Mohammad et al., (2020) states that, the income earned from tourism industry raised to US\$19.4 billion in 2016 which was 6.9 percent of the GDP. They also stated that, Pakistan generated an amount of Rs. 12.26 billion with an entry of about 8.8 million tourists in 2019 and based on this a revenue of Rs.36 to 50 billion has been targeted for the year 2020. But, like other countries of the globe, Pakistan also observed lockdown with an expectation to reduce the infection of COVID-19 (Nafees & Khan, 2020). This, in turn, has put the industry at a great risk. The airlines, road transport, cruise and hotels all had stopped their services for the time being and resulted in a serious hit to the progress of the tourism industry of the country. The World Bank Group (2020) estimates a potential loss of US\$ 3.64 billion to the GDP while putting 880,000 jobs at risk in Pakistan. It also reports that, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Province was likely to suffer from US\$ 10-20 million in losses due to the pandemic. Moreover, very few studies are made to show the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism sector of Pakistan. As such, further studies are required to specify the impact of the pandemic on the tourism sector of the country and the industry experts should come forward to develop appropriate resilience strategies to get rid of the problem and to keep up the progress of the industry in a post COVID-19 pandemic world.

Philippines

At Philippines, tourism sector has become a crucial part of the country's development strategy (Gutierrez, 2021). In the year 2019, the industry's estimated contribution to the GDP of the country was at 12.7 percent and 14 out of 100 Filipinos were employed in tourism industries. In figure, this sector created employment for approximately 5.7 million people (Ilarina, 2020). This in turn made this sector to be considered as one of the economic pillars of growth in the services sector along with the remittances sent by the Filipinos working overseas and the business process outsourcing-information technology sector. But very unfortunately, tourism industry of Philippines suffered major losses due to the initiatives like- travel restrictions, community quarantines, shutdowns of airlines, and closure of establishments etc. taken to stop spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the travel bans at Philippines, the loss expected to result was amounted to approximately USD 9.3 billion while putting 50,000 jobs at risk (Gutierrez, 2021). According to Rozario and Era (2020), the government and other stakeholders need to develop multi-level strategies that are

sustainable, inclusive, adaptive, and innovative. They also recommended for centered tourism recovery plans based on solidarity of actions and resilience through systematic adaptation and transformation.

Sri Lanka

In Sri Lanka, the tourism industry plays a crucial role in the economy with its 12.5 percent contribution to GDP and 250,000 direct and up to 2,000,000 indirect employment opportunities (Karunaratne et al., 2021). In spite of the disastrous events and civil war held in 2009, the tourism industry of Sri Lanka made a record of achieving a two-digit growth rate for both arrival of international tourists and earnings from tourism (Weerathunga et al., 2020). It gets an additional 1.9 million tourists by the end of 2019 (SLTDA, 2020). The Trip Expert, one of the world's leading travel agents, has also addressed Sri Lanka as the "Best Emerging Destination for 2019" due to its pristine mountains, beaches, and UNESCO World Heritage sites (Xinhua, 2018). As such, the tourism industry can be considered as one of the key promoters to growth for the Sri Lankan economy.

Based on the projection made by the Asian Development Bank (PWC, 2020), Karunaratne et al., (2021) reports that, due to the COVID-19 pandemic tourism revenues of Sri Lanka could fall from US\$ 107 million to US\$ 319 million at the beginning of March 2020, with an actual loss in revenue likely to be much higher than the expected as the situation has escalated over time. They also state that, a vast majority of the workers working in hotels and restaurants, airlines, travel agencies, tourist shops etc. have become temporarily unemployed due to the closure during the pandemic period and this in turn has made a massive financial impact on the families that are dependent on tourism. Moreover, those who invested in the sector are facing a financial crisis to settle their debts, make payment of wages and meet other necessary expenditures for maintenance work on assets (Samarathunga, 2020). To get recovery from the worst situation of the sector Arachchi and Gnanapala (2020) recommended for immediate resilience strategies like financial support of the government, motivation of employees ensuring their job security during this hardship and effective empowerment of female workforce.

Thailand

According to Dabphet et al. (2012), tourism is the primary contributor to the national income of Thailand and tremendous growth of the industry has made it possible to be one of the developed sectors of the country. Through a rise of 4.24 percent year over year the sector has welcomed 39.7 million of international tourists in the year 2019 and consequently, receipts from tourist have contributed THB 1.9 trillion to the national revenue of the country (Ministry of Tourism and Sports, Department of Tourism, 2020). Based on a report of the Department of Tourism, Thailand, Vithayaporn (2021) stated that, in terms of tourist arrivals China maintained the first rank during the past five consecutive years (2015 to 2019). In 2019, tourists from China made up 25 percent of 39.7 million international tourists at Thailand. And, at the same year, receipt from tourism was totaled up to 20 percent of GDP (Theparat, 2019). However, with the announcement of quarantine by the Chinese government at the city of Wuhan, the whole tourism industry of Thailand got an immediate severe effect. The tourist shopping areas and the spots of tourist attraction become stagnant suddenly due to the absence of Chinese tourists in particular. People serving in the tourism and hospitality-related jobs got severely affected due to the changing environment of the industry (Chanel, 2020). In addition, the airline industry has also been severely affected due to drastic decline in sales and revenue with the cancellation of the flights to and from

Thailand. Even, many nations around the globe have perched their trade and travel relationships with Thailand (Ekstein, 2020). Maromie & Shaw (2021) suggested for more multilevel governance to engage the stakeholders and to support grassroots and community-level networks for enhancing resilience in Thailand. They addressed the COVID-19 pandemic as chance to recover better while leaving no one behind and recommended the affected countries to take a holistic approach to identify the existing gaps and work towards a sustainable society with an inclusive long term recovery plan. They also proposed for a Health Emergency Disaster Risk Management (HEDRM) Framework that would support a coordinated response across various sectors linked together rather than focusing on one particular sector.

Discussion and Conclusion

This paper provides a comprehensive review of literature on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the tourism industry, especially, in the context of Asian countries. It reveals that a good number of country specific works has already been done to show the impact of the pandemic on the tourism sector and its subsectors. Beside the industry experts and regional tourism organizations, different worldwide organizations have also published reports focusing on the issue. Majority of the works have been done to show the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the major indicators of economic performance like- GDP, foreign exchange, employment etc. To get recovery from the situation phased actions and innovative strategies enabling all stakeholders to adapt to a new landscape of business is required. Several experts in the field of tourism research have focused on the importance of crisis management planning (Avraham, 2018; Laws & Prideaux, 2017; Prayag, 2018) and the benefits expected from a strategic tourism communications plan (Avraham & Ketter, 2017; Çakar, 2018; Park et al., 2019). However, effects on the tourism industry and the rate of resurgence from the crisis depend on its type. When the crisis is related to the injury of health, that time it requires to develop more comprehensive strategies (Gani & Singh, 2019; Mair, et al., 2016; Zahari, et al., 2016). Future researchers should extend their research to portray the actual picture of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the industry and find creative resilience strategies to overcome the adversity and make the tourism industry more attractive, comfortable and safer for the travelers in a post pandemic world.

Tourists are typically risk averse. Any actual or perceived threat to their security, health or safety influences their decision to travel or visit a particular destination. As such, the industry tends to be highly sensitive to negative environmental factors (Hung et al., 2007) and the ability to provide a secure, safe and predictable environment for visitors is one of the key success factors for the tourism destinations of a country (Speakman & Sharpley, 2012). Therefore, it is quite clear that the COVID-19 pandemic had instilled fear among the tourists, which would have a definite effect on their travelling habits (Gani & Singh, 2019). Researchers are still trying to get a forecast of the future regarding the devastating impact of the pandemic on tourism and recommending policies and guidelines to boost the industry in a post pandemic world.

Although, the real impact of COVID-19 pandemic on the global tourism industry is still unknown, the long-term impact of the crisis on the industry is well imagined. While many researchers assert that the tourism industry embodies resistance and resilience, unique strategies are required for its post-crisis recovery and for coping up with the long-term impacts. Therefore, to get an understanding on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic towards the tourism industry, policy makers should focus on how the stakeholders of the tourism industry perceive and adjust to the crisis. Besides, it is also necessary to reinforce

tourism governance at all levels for ensuring private sector coordination and participation through formal public private dialogue mechanisms at the national and international level.

References

- Abdur, R. A., & Muhammad, A. Q. (2015). Tourism receipts and economic growth: Empirical evidence from Pakistan. *International Journal of Research*, 2(2), 1401-1402. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2861776
- ADB. (2019, April). Macroeconomic update: Nepal. Asian Development Bank, 7(1). Retrieved from <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/495276/nepal-macroeconomic-update-201904.pdf>
- Adhikary, T. S., & Hasan, R. (2021, September 27). Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation: In the throes of pandemic. *The Daily Star*. Retrieved from <https://www.thedailystar.net/business/economy/industries/tourism/news/bangladesh-tourism-corporation-the-throes-pandemic-2184811>
- Ahmad, S. (2020, April 6). 30 percent mid-range hotels to close down due to Covid-19. *Focus Malaysia*. Retrieved from <https://www.matta.org.my/news/82064-30-mid-range-hotels-to-close-down-due-to-covid-19>
- Ahmed, Z. U., & Krohn, F. B. (1992). Marketing India as a tourist destination in North America—challenges and opportunities. *International Journal of Hospitality Management*, 11(2), 89–98. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0278-4319\(92\)90003-E](https://doi.org/10.1016/0278-4319(92)90003-E)
- Ahmad, A. H., Ibrahim, A., Ahmad, Z. H., & Masri, R. (2019). The Predictors of Sports Tourism Involvement in Malaysia: An Extreme Sport Overview. *Humanities & Social Sciences Reviews*, 7(2), 449-453.
- Alam, M.S., & Paramati, S.R. (2016). The impact of tourism on income inequality in developing economics: does Kuznets curve hypothesis exist. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 61, 111–126.
- Aldaihani, F.M.F., & Ali, N.A. (2018). Factors Affecting Customer Loyalty in the Restaurant Service Industry in Kuwait City, Kuwait. *Journal of International Business and Management*, 1(2), 1-14.
- Arachchi, R.S.S.W., Gnanapala, W.K.A.C. (2020). Impact of COVID 19 and the Future of Tourism Employments in Sri Lanka: A Route to Recovery and Resilience. *Journal of Management and Tourism Research*, Special Issue (2020), 15-26. http://www.uwu.ac.lk/wp-content/uploads/2021/jmtr/jmtr_si_ch2.pdf
- Asgary, A., Anjum, M. I., & Azimi, N. (2012). Disaster recovery and business continuity after the 2010 flood in Pakistan: Case of small businesses. *International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction*, 2, 46-56. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2212420912000143>
- Avraham, E. (2018). Nation branding and marketing strategies for combating tourism crises and stereotypes toward destinations. *Journal of Business Research*. 116, 711-720. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0148296318301176>
- Avraham, E., & Ketter, E. (2017). Destination marketing during and following crises: Combating negative images in Asia. *Journal of Travel & Tourism Marketing*, 34(6), 709–718.
- Blake, A., Arbache, J.S., Sinclair, M.T. & Teles, V. (2008). Tourism and poverty relief. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 35(1), 107–126. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0160738307000916>
- Çakar, K. (2018). Critical success factors for tourist destination governance in times of crisis: a case study of Antalya, Turkey. *Journal of Travel & Tourism Marketing*, 35(6), 786–802.

- Chanel, S. (2020, April 15). 'It's Catastrophic': Fiji's Colossal Tourism Sector Devastated by Coronavirus. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/16/its-catastrophic-fijis-colossal-tourism-sector-devastated-by-coronavirus>
- Chen, C. D., Chen, C. C., Tang, W. W., & Huang, B. Y. (2009). The positive and negative impacts of the SARS outbreak: A case of the Taiwan industries. *The Journal of Developing Areas*, 43(1), 281-293.
- Chen, H.Q., Qian, W.L., & Wen, Q. (2020). The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Consumption: Learning from High Frequency Transaction Data. *American Economic Association*, 111, 307-311.
- Chowdhury, E.K. (2020). Catastrophic Impact of Covid-19 on Tourism Sector in Bangladesh. *The Cost and Management*, 48(4), 43-52.
- Cohen, E. (2012). Globalization, global crises and tourism. *Tourism recreation research*, 37(2), 103-111.
- Dabphet, S., Scott, N., & Ruhanen, L. (2012). Applying Diffusion Theory to Destination Stakeholder Understanding of Sustainable Tourism Development: A Case from Thailand. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 20(8), 1107-1124.
- Davies, R. (2020, February 05). How coronavirus is affecting the global economy. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/feb/05/coronavirus-global-economy>
- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT). (2020). Press Information Bureau (PIB), Union Budget 2020-21, Ministry of Tourism, Press Release.
- Ekstein, N. (2020). The Coronavirus's Effect on Tourism Will Carry Into 2021, Experts Say. *Bloomberg*. Retrieved from <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-0213/coronavirus-s-effect-on-tourism-will-carry-into-2021-experts-say>
- Fotiadis, A., Polyzos, S., & Huan, T. C. (2021). The Good, The Bad and The Ugly on Covid-19 Tourism Recovery. *Annals of Tourism Research*, 87. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160738320302619>
- Gani, A., & Singh, R. (2019). Managing disaster and crisis in Tourism: A critique of research and a fresh research agenda. *African Journal of Hospitality, Tourism and Leisure*, 8(4), 1-25.
- Gössling, S., Scott, D., and Hall, C.M. (2020). Pandemics, tourism and global change: a rapid assessment of COVID-19. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*, 29(1), 1-20.
- Government of the Lao PDR, Ministry of Information, Culture, and Tourism (MICT). (2019). *Statistical Report on Tourism in Laos 2019*. Vientiane: MICT.
- Gutierrez, E.L.M. (2021). Redefining Sustainable Tourism in COVID-19: A Political-Economy Approach. *DLSU Business & Economics Review*, 31(2) 2021, p. 1-13.
- Hafsa, S. (2020, July 23). Impacts of COVID-19 Pandemic on Tourism & Hospitality Industry in Bangladesh. Available at https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3659196
- Haller, A. (2012). *Growth and development through tourism in conditions of liberalization. Theories and concepts*. Paper presented at the 14th International Conference "Romanian rural tourism in the context of sustainable development: present and prospects", Vatra Dornei, Romania, 25-26 May 2012.
- Hanafiah, M.H., Balasingam, A.S., Nair, V., Jamaluddin, M.R., & Zahari, S.M. (2021). Implications of COVID-19 on Tourism Businesses in Malaysia: Evidence from a Preliminary Industry Survey. *Asia-Pacific Journal of Innovation in Hospitality and Tourism*, 10(1), 81-94.
- Haseeb, M., Xinhailu, A. B., Khan, J. Z., Ahmad, I., & Malik, R. (2011). Construction of earthquake resistant buildings and infrastructure implementing seismic design and

- building code in northern Pakistan 2005 earthquake affected area. *International Journal of Business and Social Science*, 2(4), 168-177.
- Haque, A., Azam, S. F., & Chowdhury, N. A. (2019). Factors affecting purchase behaviour of Shariah compliant hotels: a study from Muslim consumers' perspective. *International Journal of Islamic Marketing and Branding*, 4(2), 104-123.
- He, P., Sun, Y., Zhang, Y., & Li, T. (2020). COVID-19's impact on stock prices different sectors—an event study based on the Chinese stock market. *Emerg Mark Finance Trade*, 56(10), 2198–2212.
- Hoque, A., Shikha, F.A., Hasanat, M.W., Arif, I. & Hamid, A.B.A. (2020). The Effect of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in the Tourism Industry in China, *Asian Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies*, 3(1), 52-58.
- Hung, Y., Tseng, Y., & Petrick, J. (2007). Crisis management planning to restore tourism after disasters: A case study from Taiwan. *Journal of Travel & Tourism Marketing*, 73(23), 2-16. DOI: 10.1300/J073v23n02_16.
- Ilarina, V. R. (2020, July 23). *Philippine Tourism Satellite Accounts (PTSA) Report*. Philippine Statistics Authority. Retrieved from http://www.tourism.gov.ph/industry_performance/Dissemination_forum/2019_PTS_A_Report.pdf
- India Brand Equity Foundation. (2020). *Tourism & Hospitality Industry in India*. Retrieved from <https://www.ibef.org/industry/tourism-hospitality-india.aspx>.
- Jaipuria, S., Parida, R., & Ray, P. (2020). The impact of COVID-19 on tourism sector in India. *Tourism Recreation Research*, 46(2), 245-260.
- Jamal, A., Sankaran, A., Hameed, S., El-Kafafi, S., & Sultana, Y. (2020). Effect and Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) on Tourism Industry in India: A Review. *World Sustainable Development Outlook 2020*.
- Jennings, R. (2020). Coronavirus Strikes Tourism, Factories, Consumption around Southeast Asia. *Voice of America*. Retrieved from https://www.voanews.com/a/science-health_coronavirus-outbreak_coronavirus-strikes-tourism-factories-consumption-around/6184119.html
- Karim, W., Haque, A., Anis, Z., & Ulfy, M.A. (2020). The movement control order (MCO) for COVID-19 crisis and its impact on tourism and hospitality sector in Malaysia. *International Tourism and Hospitality Journal*, 3(1), 1-7.
- Karunaratne, A.C.I.D., Ranasinghe, J.P.R.C., Sammani, U.G.O., & Perera, K.J.T. (2021). Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on tourism operations and resilience: stakeholders' perspective in Sri Lanka. *Worldwide Hospitality and Tourism Themes*, 13(3), 369-382.
- Kaur, S. (2020, March 31). Hotels in KL partially closed for business. *The New Straits Times*. Retrieved from <https://www.nst.com.my/property/2020/03/579988/hotels-kl-partiallyclosed-business>
- Khanal, B. R., Gan, C., & Becken. S. (2014). Tourism Inter-Industry Linkages in the Lao PDR Economy: An Input–Output Analysis. *Tourism Economics*. 20(1), 171–194.
- Kobra, M. K., Bhuiyan, K. H., & Zayed, N. M. (2018). Well and woes of tourism promotion in Bangladesh: Investment perspective. *Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies Journal*, 22(3), 1–8.
- Koe, T. (2020). *Coronavirus impact: Nutrition retailers hit by drastic cut in China tourist numbers*, *NUTRA ingredients.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.nutraingredients.com/Article/2020/03/03/GALLERY-The-10-most-read-APAC-health-and-nutrition-stories-in-February?page=4>

- Kristiana, Y., Pramono., & Brian, R. (2021). Adaptation Strategy of Tourism Industry Stakeholders During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Case Study in Indonesia. *Journal of Asian Finance, Economics and Business*, 8(4), 0213–0223.
- Laws, E., & Prideaux, B. R. (2017). The impacts of foot and mouth disease on a peripheral tourism area: The role and effect of crisis management. In E. Laws, & B. R. Prideaux (Eds.), *Tourism crises: Management responses and theoretical insight* (59–72). NY, US: Routledge (Original work published 2005).
- Lee, C.C., & Chang, C.P. (2008). Tourism development and economic growth: a closer look at panels. *Tour Manag*, 29(1), 180–192.
- Liu, Y.J., & Han, Y.J. (2020). Factor structure, institutional environment and high-quality development of the tourism economy in China. *Tour Trib*, 35(3), 28–38.
- Mair, J., Ritchie, B. W., & Walters, G. (2016). Towards a research agenda for post-disaster and post-crisis recovery strategies for tourist destinations: A narrative review. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 19(1), 1–26.
- Maliszewska, M., Mattoo, A., & Van Der Mensbrugge, D. (2020, April 18). The potential impact of Covid-19 on GDP and trade: A preliminary assessment. *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper*. Retrieved from <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/295991586526445673/pdf/The-Potential-Impact-of-COVID-19-on-GDP-and-Trade-A-Preliminary-Assessment.pdf>
- Mariolis, T., Rodousakis, N., & Soklis, G. (2020). The COVID-19 multiplier effects of tourism on the Greek economy. *Tourism Economics*, 27(8), 1848-1855.
- Maromie, W., & Shaw, R. (2021). COVID-19 Response in Thailand and Its Implications on Future Preparedness. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 18(3), 1089. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph18031089>
- Menegaki, A.N. (2020). Hedging feasibility perspectives against the COVID-19 in the international tourism sector. *Preprints 2020*, 2020040536. doi: 10.20944/preprints202004.0536.v1.
- Ministry of Tourism and Sports, Department of Tourism. (2020). *International Tourist Arrivals*. Retrieved from https://www.mots.go.th/mots_en/more_news_new.php?cid=330
- Mohammad, N., Rukh, L., & Khan, F. (2020). Potential Economic Impacts of COVID-19 on Tourism Industry of Pakistan: A Review. *Gaziantep University Journal of Social Sciences*, 2020 Special Issue. 601-611.
- Mosbah, A., & Saleh, A. A. (2014). A review of tourism development in Malaysia. *European Journal of Business and Management*, 6(5), 1-9.
- Nafees, M., & Khan, F. (2020). Pakistan's response to COVID-19 pandemic and efficacy of quarantine and partial lockdown: A Review. *Electronic Journal of General Medicine*, 17(6), em240. <https://doi.org/10.29333/ejgm/7951>
- Nepal Tourism Statistics (2019). *Ministry of Culture, Tourism & Civil Aviation, Government of Nepal*. <https://tourism.gov.np/files/statistics/19.pdf>
- Ojo, B. Y., & Yusofu, R. N. (2013). Edutourism: international student's decision making process in selecting a host university in malaysia. *European journal of business and management*, 5(30), 51-57.
- Papatheodorou, A., Rosselló, J., & Xiao, H. (2010). Global economic crisis and tourism: Consequences and perspectives. *Journal of Travel Research*, 49(1), 39-45.
- Park, D., Kim, W. G., & Choi, S. (2019). Application of social media analytics in tourism crisis communication. *Current Issues in Tourism*, 22(15), 1810–1824.
- Prasain, S. (2020). With no end to the pandemic in sight and no roadmap for recovery, the tourism sector looks at a prolonged. *The Kathmandu Post*. Retrieved from

- <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2020/06/15/with-no-end-to-the-pandemic-insight-and-noroadmap-for-recovery-the-tourism-sector-looks-at-a-prolonged-slump>
- Prayag, G. (2018). Symbiotic relationship or not? Understanding resilience and crisis management in tourism. *Tourism Management Perspectives*, 25, 133–135.
- Purba, J.H.V., Fathiah, R., & Steven. (2021). The Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Tourism Sector in Indonesia. *Riset*. 3(1), 389 – 401.
- Qian, J., Shen, H., & Law, R. (2018). Research in Sustainable Tourism: A Longitudinal Study of Articles between 2008 and 2017. *Sustainability*, 10(3), 1-13. doi:10.3390/su10030590
- Ranasinghe, R., Damunupola, A., Wijesundara, S., Karunarathna, C., Nawarathna, D., Gamage, S., ... & Idroos, A. A. (2020). Tourism after corona: Impacts of COVID 19 pandemic and way forward for tourism, hotel and mice industry in Sri Lanka. *Hotel and Mice Industry in Sri Lanka (April 22, 2020)*.
- Raza, S. A., & Jawaid, S. T. (2013). Terrorism and tourism: A conjunction and ramification in Pakistan. *Economic Modelling*, 33, 65-70. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.econmod.2013.03.008>
- Rhaman, M. R. (2016). The Socio-economic Importance of Tourism and Its Impact on the Livelihood in South Asia Case Rangamati, Bangladesh, Bachelor`s Thesis, Centria University of Applied Sciences Degree Programme in Tourism, May 2016. Retrieved from <https://www.theseus.fi/bitstream/handle/10024/116404/Rezaur_Rhaman.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>
- Rozario, J. D., & Era, J. S. B. (2020). Examining Tourism Resilience Practices as basis for a Post-Covid 19 Recovery in the Philippines. *Asean Journal on Hospitality and Tourism*. 18(1), 1-12.
- Salam, R. (2014). Tourism & socio-economic development: Focus on Bangladesh, a destination country. *International Journal of Business & Management (Toronto)*, 1(2), 88–98.
- Samarathunga, W.H.M.S. (2020), Post-COVID19 Challenges and Way Forward for Sri Lanka Tourism. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3581509
- Sarwar, A. (2013). Medical tourism in Malaysia: Prospect and challenges. *Iranian journal of public health*, 42(8), 795.
- Sayeda, T. (2017). The effects of mass tourism: An evaluative study on Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh. *IOSR Journal of Humanities and Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, 22(5), 31–36.
- Sazzad, A. (2020, February 22), Tourism contributes 4.4 pc to GDP, *Daily Industry*. Retrieved from <<http://www.dailyindustry.news/tourism-contributes-4-4-pc-gdp/>>
- Shahzad, S.J.H., Shahbaz, M., Ferrer, R., & Kumar, R.R. (2017). Tourism-led growth hypothesis in the top ten tourist destinations: New evidence using the quantile-on-quantile approach. *Tourism Management*, 60, 223-232.
- Shivakoti, A. (2021). Impact of COVID-19 on Tourism in Nepal. *The Gaze Journal of Tourism and Hospitality*, 12(1), 1-22.
- Shrestha, P.M. (2020). Nepali economy starts to feel the pinch as Coronavirus spreads. *The Kathmandu Post*. Retrieved from <https://kathmandupost.com/national/2020/03/04/nepalieconomy-starts-to-feel-the-pinch-as-coronavirus-spreads>
- Southichack, M., Siliphong, P., & Inthakesone, B. (2020a). Socioeconomic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 in Lao PDR. *United Nations Lao PDR*. Retrieved from

- <https://www.laomfa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Socioeconomic-Impact-Assessment-of-COVID-19-in-Lao-PDR-31-AUGUST-2020.pdf>
- Southichack, M., Siliphong, P., & Inthakesone, B. (2020b). Socioeconomic Impact Assessment of COVID-19 on Lao PDR. *United Nations Lao PDR*. Retrieved from https://laopdr.un.org/sites/default/files/2021-04/UN%20Lao%20PDR%20SEIA%20COVID-19_EnglishFA2web.pdf
- Speakman, M., & Sharpley, R. (2012). A chaos theory perspective on destination crisis management: Evidence from Mexico. *Journal of Destination Marketing & Management, 1*, 67-77. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdmm.2012.05.003>
- Su, Y., Cherian, J., Sial, M.S., Badulescu, A., Thu, P.A., Badulescu, D., & Samad, S. (2021). Does Tourism Affect Economic Growth of China? A Panel Granger Causality Approach. *Sustainability, 13*(3), 1349. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13031349>
- Tan, R. (2020, February 11). Airlines see big drop in business. *The Star Online*. Retrieved from <https://www.thestar.com.my/business/business-news/2020/02/11/airlines-see-big-drop-in-business>
- Theparat, C. (2019, September 19). Prayut: Zones Vital for Growth. *Bangkok Post*. Retrieved from <https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/1753349/prayut-zones-vital>
- The World Bank Group. (2020). *COVID-19 and Tourism in Southasia: Opportunities for sustainable regional outcomes*. Retrieved from <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/34050>
- Tourism Malaysia. (2020). *Malaysia tourism statistics in brief*. Retrieved from www.tourism.gov.my/statistics.
- Tsionas, M. G. (2020). COVID-19 and gradual adjustment in the tourism, hospitality, and related industries. *Tourism Economics, 27*(8), 1828–1832. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1354816620933039>
- Ulak, N. (2020). A Preliminary Study of Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak: A Pandemic Leading Crisis in Tourism Industry of Nepal. *Journal of Tourism and Hospitality Education, 10*(1), 108-131. <https://doi.org/10.3126/jthe.v10i0.28763>
- UNWTO. (2020). *UNWTO World Tourism Barometer*. Vol. 18, Issue 2, May 2020. Madrid, Spain: UNWTO.
- Vithayaporn, S. (2021). COVID-19 Pandemic – A Testing Time for Tourism and Hospitality in Thailand. *ABAC ODI Journal Vision.Action.Outcome, 8*(1), 41-53.
- Weerathunga, P.R., Xiaofang, C., Samarathunga, W.H.M.S., and Jayathilake, P.M.B. (2020), The relative effect of growth of economy, industry expansion, and firm-specific factors on corporate hotel performance in Sri Lanka. *SAGE Open, 10*(2), 1-21. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/2158244020914633>
- WTTC. (2018). *Travel & tourism economic impact 2018 world*. World Travel and Tourism Council.
- Wu, W., Lee, C.C., Xing, W., & Ho, S.J. (2021). The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on Chinese-listed tourism stocks. *Financial Innovation, 7*:22. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40854-021-00240-6>
- Xinhua. (2018). Sri Lanka Ranked No 1 Travel Destination in 2019 by Lonely Planet. *ChinaDaily.com*. Retrieved from <https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/201810/24/WS5bcfdd1ba310eff3032843d0.html>
- Yamano, T., Pradhananga, M., Schipani, S., Samson, J.N., Quiao, L., Leuangkhamsing, S., & Maddawin, A. (2020). The Impact of COVID-19 on Tourism Enterprises in the Lao People’s Democratic Republic: An Initial Assessment. *ADB BRIEFS*, No. 141, June 2020. <http://dx.doi.org/10.22617/BRF200187-2>

- Ying, T.X. (2020). China is one of Malaysia's largest tourist source countries. *The Edge Markets*. Retrieved from <https://www.theedgemarkets.com/article/china-one-malaysias-largest-tourist-source-countries>
- Zahari, M. S. M., Hanafiah, M. H., & Dusi, D. D. (2016). Do crises impede the international tourists travel motivation? *Tourismos*, 11(2), 22–49.
- Zhang, L., & Gao, J. (2021). Exploring the effects of international tourism on China's economic growth, energy consumption and environmental pollution: Evidence from a regional panel analysis. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 53, 225–234. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2015.08.040>
- Zhu, N., Zhang, D., Wang, W., Li, X., Yang, B., Song, J., & Tan, W. (2020). A Novel Coronavirus from Patients with Pneumonia in China, 2019. *The New England Journal of Medicine*, 382, 727–733. <https://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056%2FNEJMoa2001017>